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The Roots of the Roses.

The leaves are fading and falling,
The winds are rough and wild,
The birds have ceased their calling,
But let me tell you, my child,

Though day by day, as it closes,
Doth darker and colder grow,
The roots of the bright red roses
Will keep alive in the snow.

And when the winter is over,
The boughs will get new leaves,
The quail come back to the clover,
The swallow come back to the eaves.

The robin will wear on his bosom
The vest that is bright and new,
And the liveliest wayside blossom
Will shine with sun and dew.

So, when some dear joy loses
Its beautiful summer glow,
Think how the roots of the roses
Are kept alive in the snow.

MORRILL, KANS.

Went to Carleton, Neb., Dec. 12th. Remained till the 20th. Preached six sermons in the M. E. house in town and two in the Allen S. H., four miles north of town. Had interesting meetings but made no special effort for accessions to the church, owing, partly to our own limited time and partly because the brethren at Carleton are not yet fully organized. They have one but like many others, he won't preach and we don't know of any lawful power to compel him. He is a good brother all the same.

One thing made us feel quite happy while at Carleton, and that was the friendliness of our German Baptist brethren. They paid little attention to those terrible minutes containing the decision that it is wrong to encourage a fallen or expelled minister either by going to hear him preach or in any other way.

Elder John Holsinger, who we are told, has the oversight of the church there, came four miles twice to hear us preach. He greeted us with the salutation of the kiss and assisted us in prayer. God bless him. We feel toward him as a sincere Christian brother.

Several other brethren of that church treated us equally friendly. God bless them all.

At present we are laying stone wall. Next Sunday is our regular appointment at Everest. Next we expect to assist our home brethren in a series of meetings in our home church, eight miles north-east of Morrill. On Jan. 10th we promised to be at Humboldt, Neb.; and now comes a call from Summer Co., Kans. Well, if the brethren there can wait till about Jan. 23rd, we will try and be with them. God bless everybody in need of his blessings.

W. J. H. BAUMAN.

BOONSBORO, MD.

I very respectfully submit to the exhortation I received as the "Brother from Maryland" who wrote on poor printing paper and the unhappy results following, and promise, like an obedient boy, to do so no more. I should have not done so then but as it was all done spasmodically—please pardon.

It is truly refreshing see the large accessions that are being made to the fold of Christ in some parts of his moral vineyard, and that the good cause is prospering under the administrations

of our live and energetic brethren, whose activities have been blessed with precious souls flocking to the blood stained banner of King Immanuel, Prince of Hope and Peace.

But I feel sorry to say, in our own immediate territory, the good work has been somewhat stagnant, but to what cause I can consistently impute it, I am at a loss. But of one thing I am certain, it is not for want of material to work upon, as it would be rather an anomaly for any community to be entirely Christianized. If I assert it is from lack of effort, recently, I do not think I would be chargeable with misrepresentation. Nor is this indictment solely against our beloved young pastor, who, I believe, is ever ready and willing to institute proceedings against guilty offenders.

But I am willing, along with the rest of the brethren, to bow in submission to the charge of neglect in holding up his hands, by standing by him in the defence of the Gospel. We are too liable to spike the batteries by nonaggressive principles and thereby destroy the force of the spiritual shells thrown into the camp of the enemy. If the ammunition be good, legitimate material, let the charges be doubled until there is caused a mighty shaking among the dry bones culminating in a grand surrender.

I discover that in these latter days we must become absolutely aggressive in order to success. The citadel of sin and iniquity must be stormed; the fountains of the great deep of wickedness must be penetrated to their utmost depths until the muddy waters be purified by the convicting spirit, and the love of God shed abroad in the heart.

We are taught that the word of God is quick and powerful sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

I will merely add supplementary, that Bro. McFaden proposes to make a protracted effort at Mt. Pleasant Chappel, commencing on Tuesday evening, 20th inst. I trust he may have the hearty co-operation of the church, and that they will not allow the emblem of Christianity to trail in the dust. But that victory may perch on his banner of love and that there may be joy in heaven among the angels over repenting sinners, so that we have a good report to grace the columns of the EVANGELIST, to swell the ingathering of precious souls, so refreshing and inspiring to the church at large, is the prayer of your unworthy Brother.

P. S. N.

DAYTON, O.

Dec. 25.—The protracted effort by Bro. P. J. Brown, at Bear Creek, closed Wednesday evening the 23rd. This was nearly a

four week's seige, the longest of any yet held in the place and resulted in what we hope will prove a permanent upbuilding of progressive Christianity in the Bear Creek congregation. I for one urged that this meeting be held early before the severe winter weather sets in, believing that in a country place it is best to insure large attendance. The church had in view several evangelists for the occasion, but the long distance of one the many prior engagements of others, made it impossible to secure their service so early in the season. Finally Brown was pressed into the championship of this contest with sin and the devil. I told the brethren that Bro. Brown was a power and he proved himself as such to the full satisfaction of all except to lovers of human creeds. It was well he came. He used the gospel weapons in his own plain, practical way, and every sermon counted as a tremendous blow from the gospel hammer. It may not have seemed so to Bro. Brown, for we remember on the second Sunday night when the blizzard on the outside and the smoke on the inside made us all feel blue, he said, "I fear nothing will come of this meeting as it seems hard to get up a sufficient interest here and I feel like quitting soon." I related to him the following as a means of encouragement. One time as I passed through the B. & O. track-yard in Hagerstown, Md., I passed a man who, with a sledge hammer was trying to knock a hole into a large cast iron water main in order to a start in breaking it up for the junk market. I waited and watched long to see the result of those heavy blows on one particular spot and then finally an opening appeared and then with every stroke after that the pieces flew off. "So you here continue your strokes, Bro. Brown, and when once the impressions are so deep that an incision is made on the hearts of these people, then the troubled waves will roll until many will come surging upon them into the Kingdom." The effort continuing, the weather changing for the better, the spirit began to move upon the troubled waters, and by the next Sunday night precious souls began coming to the foot of the cross.

Being closely engaged just now it was not my pleasure to be at many of these meetings, but on the third Sunday night a new inspiration seemed to seize us, the sermon more stirring, the the gospel songs more spirited, the prayers more earnest and fervent and the appeals to the unsaved more pathetic; and now the revival opened for the balance of the time. Several intelligent young ladies came forward in response to the call. One of the deacons remarked the assistance of Bro. (modesty forbidding mentioning the name) this evening gave a new impetus to this meeting. To have a successful revival the membership must be revived, and all the old prejudices and preferences and

factions must be hurled back at the devil's feet from whence they came, and nothing but the sun-beams of love and union from the sun of righteousness shine each Christian heart. Then love from heart to heart will flow peacefully on like a river.

We attempted a revival last winter but the severity of 22 degrees below zero froze us completely out; but the mercury don't need to fall so low as that to freeze a protracted meeting dead when there is much lukewarmness in a church.

My pastoral year is up. Covington and Pleasant Hill congregations are left to work with home officers, the latter being in better working condition than for many years, and as for Bear Creek it only had half of my time during my pastoral year and during which time I made over sixty pastoral visits and had the pleasure of seeing sixteen souls added to her number: not what I should like to report, but glad that some increase was given of God the Father of all. As for the future I may or I may not minister for this congregation, yet I feel a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of this congregation, and now, since the revival feel more hopeful of its future success. During Bro. Brown's meetings sixteen were baptized and confirm, three reclaimed and sixteen that came forward gave the hand for consent to go with us, and, we hope, God their hearts, they expect to be baptized in the near future.

I don't know why Bear Creek should not have a prosperous future for many are counting the cost of a Christian life. O, that the Lord will help them to see his yoke—doctrine—is easy and his burden is light.

The Lord bless Bro. Brown, the Bear Creek church and his people every where.

E. S. MILLER.

WILSEY, KANSAS.

Dec. 27.—Where are our good brethren John H. Peck and Dr. P. R. Wrightsman? is a question propounded by Bro. H. R. Holsinger in EVANGELIST No. 51. The answer is we are living in Emporia, one of the leading towns and principal railroad centres of Kansas, where there is plenty of room for evangelistic work, and on account of our excellent railroad facilities no good reason why traveling ministers should never call on us. But I presume Bro. Holsinger did not mean to inquire so much about where we are geographically, as where we are as pertaining to our connection with the church and our labors in the cause of Christ.

As Bro. Wrightsman is of age and able to speak for himself I will only speak for myself. When my wife and I came to Emporia four years ago we found no Progressive members in the vicinity, and having a letter from the German Baptist church at Lanark Ill., we presented it to the German Baptist church known as

the Cottonwood church in Lyon Co., Kansas, were received by them and have labored with them in peace and unity ever since; none the less progressive however than we used to be when Bro. Holsinger last saw us; the only difference is, we happened to strike a church where christian principle predominates and annual meeting rule is not very severely enforced.

We have made several efforts to have the gospel (as we understand it) preached in Emporia, but am sorry to say have succeeded very poorly so far. Last spring Bro. M. T. Baer held a meeting of three weeks in Emporia the immediate result of which was that two of my children and one of Bro. Wrightsman's became members of the German Baptist church.

I deplore the divisions that make us know each other as Progressives, Conservatives and Old Order, and I do not recognize these divisions practically. I regard them all as my brethren and will fellowship any and all of them that fellowship me.

I would much love to have an able evangelist come to Emporia and help us build up a spiritual house, of lively stones, read and known of all men; and I would not stop to ask, are you Old Order, Conservative or Progressive? But will guarantee that if such a one comes along we will assist him all we can.

I am at present engaged in building a school house at Wilsey, Kansas, where J. H. Myers has land for sale. There are a few scattered sheep here that are much in need of a shepherd. And it looks to me as if this were a fruitful field for some able minister to call out and organize a prosperous church. W. J. H. Bauman or A. J. Hixson should try by all means to visit this field before the thorns (cares of this world, deceitfulness of riches, and lusts of other things, Mark 4:19) choke out all the good seed. Those in search of homes would do well to visit Wilsey and see Bro. Myers before buying elsewhere as this is a beautiful country with many acres of unimproved fertile prairie that can yet be bought cheap, but is rapidly advancing in price.

J. H. PECK.

SOUTH BEND, IND.

Dec. 30.—After an unsuccessful effort three miles south of this city, I left the meeting in care of Bro. Ritgers and planted my battery some four miles west of the city, and we are now in the heat of battle in the midst of a glorious revival. The waters have been troubled for the last four days and sinners are coming home to God. Ten came out yesterday, 22 in all up to this time, nine from the leading German Baptists. Prospect good for many more accessions during the meeting. Bro. Ewing and wife are doing telling work in song. Bro. Ritgers is our Baptist. Praise the Lord, the cause is prospering everywhere, more anon.

J. A. RIDENOUR.